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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/804,846	03/19/2004	Yi Hua Ma	1021.2005-001	7497

21005 7590 11/17/2006

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EXAMINER

LAWRENCE JR, FRANK M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1724

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20061115

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

The information disclosure statement filed October 17, 2006 has been considered. The claims remain allowable over the prior art of record. The newly cited prior art disclose the use of layers of Pd and Cu on a substrate which are annealed to form a PdCu alloy layer through intermetallic diffusion, but fail to disclose an intermediate layer that is metallic or formed from a hydrogen permeable material and that can be defined as porous as opposed to a "dense" or "solid" hydrogen-selective material.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frank M. Lawrence whose telephone number is 571-272-1161. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 7:30-6:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on 571-272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

11-15-06

Frank M. Lawrence
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1724